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General Assembly
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Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Fifty-seventh year

Identical letters dated 8 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Israel, the occupying Power, has fiercely intensified its bloody and barbaric military campaign against the Palestinian people under its occupation. With this escalation of Israeli war crimes, State terrorism and human rights violations against the Palestinian people has come the rising toll of Palestinian dead and wounded, including children. The intensifying assaults directly follow the decision declared by the Israeli Prime Minister to escalate the use of force against the Palestinian people with the aim of beating them into submission to the occupying Power.

In less than 24 hours, since my letter to you yesterday, at least 40 Palestinians have been killed throughout the Occupied Palestinian Territory by the Israeli occupying forces and more than 100 have been injured, many of them critically. In fact, several of those killed were left to bleed to death as Israeli forces continued to prevent ambulances and medical personnel from reaching the wounded. Among the many Palestinians killed today were two children, a mother of five children, a doctor, a paramedic and a General of the Palestinian National Security Services.

These most recent Palestinian deaths have been the result of the excessive, indiscriminate and deadly force unleashed by the Israeli occupying forces in numerous assaults on Palestinian refugee camps, villages, towns and cities today. Launching attacks by air, land and sea, the occupying forces have used all types of heavy weaponry from the lethal military arsenal at their disposal, including machine guns, tanks, helicopter gunships, naval gunboats and warplanes. In particular, the Israeli occupying forces have persisted with the bombardment of Palestinian Authority security and police installations throughout the Occupied Territory.

Many of the attacks carried out by the occupying forces today followed continuing incursions into areas under Palestinian control. In addition to the killings and destruction of property incurred, numerous Palestinians have been abducted by the Israeli occupying forces during these raids. Further, the Israeli army continued to occupy the city of Tulkarem and the Tulkarem refugee camp as well as the city of

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Bethlehem and surrounding towns and refugee camps, including Beit Jala, Beit Sahour and the Deheisheh and Aida camps. The occupying forces also continued to make incursions throughout the Gaza Strip, in particular in the Khan Yunis refugee camp and surrounding area, including the village of Khuzza'a, which suffered the highest death toll today.

In addition to the raids and assaults being carried out by the Israeli occupying forces, the Palestinian people have also been the targets of violence perpetrated by illegal Israeli settlers. At least a dozen illegal armed settlers went on a rampage today in the village of Huwara near Nablus. The settlers fired guns and attacked houses with stones, wounding at least four Palestinians and damaging a mosque and a medical clinic. Israeli forces present at the time did not take any action to stop the settler attacks.

As the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people continues to intensify in all its forms, the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory continues to gravely deteriorate, threatening to spiral out of control and to destabilize the entire region. The international community, particularly the United Nations Security Council, is duty-bound to take action to prevent the further deterioration of the situation for the preservation of international peace and security. Each day that passes in which the Security Council fails to take action is another day in which the death toll rises and the tragedy deepens. Accordingly, we reiterate our call for the Security Council to urgently take the necessary measures to bring an end to the deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.

In follow-up to our previous 105 letters to you regarding this escalating crisis and grave deterioration of the situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, dated from 29 September 2000 to 7 March 2002 (A/55/432-S/2000/921; A/55/437-S/2000/930; A/55/450-S/2000/957; A/55/466-S/2000/971; A/55/474-S/2000/984; A/55/490-S/2000/993; A/ES-10/39-S/2000/1015; A/ES-10/40-S/2000/1025; A/ES-10/42-S/2000/1068; A/ES-10/43-S/2000/1078; A/ES-10/44-S/2000/1093; A/ES-10/45-S/2000/1104; A/ES-10/46-S/2000/1107; A/ES-10/47-S/2000/1116; A/ES-10/48-S/2000/1129; A/ES-10/49-S/2000/1154; A/ES-10/50-S/2000/1173; A/ES-10/51-S/2000/1185; A/ES-10/52-S/2000/1206; A/ES-10/53-S/2000/1247; A/ES-10/54-S/2001/7; A/ES-10/55-S/2001/33; A/ES-10/56-S/2001/50; A/ES-10/57-S/2001/101; A/ES-10/58-S/2001/131; A/ES-10/59-S/2001/156; A/ES-10/60-S/2001/175; A/ES-10/61-S/2001/189; A/ES-10/64-S/2001/209; A/ES-10/65-S/2001/226; A/ES-10/66-S/2001/239; A/ES-10/67-S/2001/255; A/ES-10/68-S/2001/284; A/ES-10/69-S/2001/295; A/ES-10/70-S/2001/304; A/ES-10/71-S/2001/314; A/ES-10/72-S/2001/332; A/ES-10/75-S/2001/352; A/ES-10/76-S/2001/372; A/ES-10/79-S/2001/418; A/ES-10/80-S/2001/432; A/ES-10/81-S/2001/447; A/ES-10/82-S/2001/463; A/ES-10/83-S/2001/471; A/ES-10/84-S/2001/479; A/ES-10/85-S/2001/486; A/ES-10/86-S/2001/496; A/ES-10/87-S/2001/504; A/ES-10/88-S/2001/508; A/ES-10/89-S/2001/544; A/ES-10/90-S/2001/586; A/ES-10/91-S/2001/605; A/ES-10/92-S/2001/629; A/ES-10/93-S/2001/657; A/ES-10/94-S/2001/669; A/ES-10/95-S/2001/686; A/ES-10/96-S/2001/697; A/ES-10/97-S/2001/708; A/ES-10/98-S/2001/717; A/ES-10/99-S/2001/742; A/ES-10/100-S/2001/754; A/ES-10/101-S/2001/783; A/ES-10/102-S/2001/785; A/ES-10/103-S/2001/798; A/ES-10/104-S/2001/812; A/ES-10/105-S/2001/814; A/ES-10/107-S/2001/821; A/ES-10/108-S/2001/826; A/ES-10/111-S/2001/880; A/ES-10/112-S/2001/918; A/ES-10/114-S/2001/928; A/ES-10/115-S/2001/932; A/ES-10/116-S/2001/941;

A/ES-10/117-S/2001/971; A/ES-10/118-S/2001/989; A/ES-10/119-S/2001/991; A/ES-10/121-S/2001/1007; A/ES-10/122-S/2001/1024; A/ES-10/123-S/2001/1036; A/ES-10/124-S/2001/1084; A/ES-10/125-S/2001/1092; A/ES-10/126-S/2001/1118; A/ES-10/128-S/2001/1149; A/ES-10/129-S/2001/1166; A/ES-10/133-S/2001/1239; A/ES-10/134-S/2001/1261; A/ES-10/136-S/2002/18; A/ES-10/137-S/2002/39; A/ES-10/138-S/2002/48; A/ES-10/139-S/2002/58; A/ES-10/140-S/2002/89; A/ES-10/141-S/2002/95; A/ES-10/142-S/2002/102; A/ES-10/143-S/2002/121; A/ES-10/144-S/2002/142; A/ES-10/145-S/2002/146; A/ES-10/146-S/2002/165; A/ES-10/147-S/2002/175; A/ES-10/148-S/2002/182; A/ES-10/149-S/2002/190; A/ES-10/150-S/2002/214; A/ES-10/151-S/2002/223; A/ES-10/152-S/2002/232; A/ES-10/154-S/2002/242 and A/ES-10/155-S/2002/248), it is my profound regret to inform you that today a total of 40 Palestinians were killed by the Israeli occupying forces. (The names of the martyrs are contained in the annex to the present letter.) These killings raise the total number of Palestinians killed since 28 September 2000 to 1,053 martyrs, including men, women and children.

I would be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nasser **Al-Kidwa**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

Annex to the letter dated 8 March 2002 from the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Names of martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem* (Friday, 8 March 2002)

1. Salman Ibrahim Al-Dibs
2. Sa'ed Soud Eid
3. Ibrahim Al-Araj
4. Ma'moun Abed Qudeh
5. Bassam Abed Aker
6. Wael Mohammed Awaad
7. Awad Ahmed Najarma
8. Ibrahim Mohammed Agha
9. General Ahmed Mufrij Abu Hamid
10. Moussa Suliman Al-Najjar
11. Baker Hussein Al-Najjar
12. Ashraf Suliman Al-Najjar
13. Aref HarezAllah
14. Riad Al-Qasas
15. Ayman Ibrahim Abu Tair
16. Marwan Salman Abu Mutlaq
17. Ibrahim Yehia Abu Daqa
18. Khaled Ibrahim Qudeh
19. Hussam Shehdah Abu Teir
20. Riad Salim Abu Reideh
21. Mohammed Abu Rujeleh Qudeh
22. Mohammed Tawfiq Abu Reideh
23. Ehab Abdel Karim Ismail
24. Mahmoud Shihdeh Qudeh
25. Khalil Abed Qudeh
26. Hamed Qudeh

* Total number of Palestinian martyrs killed by Israeli occupying forces since 28 September 2000 is 1,053.

27. Fayez Qudeh
28. Mohammed Ahmed Abu Ghoseh
29. Saeed Shalaiel
30. Samer Younes
31. Eid Abu Obeid
32. Hany Radwan Ashour
33. Ziad Jarad
34. Khaled Naief KheirAllah
35. Mohammed Ma'moun Fayez Abu Ali (10 years old)
36. Ahmed Abu Tammam
37. Bilal Abu Hashem Rajab
38. Mahmoud Rassem Abaas
39. Mohammed Sidqi Nassar
40. Yehia Jameel Odeh